

## Taking DHR on the road



Photo by Deborah Woodward

*The traveling exhibit promoting “Solving History’s Mysteries, The History Discovery Lab,” housed at the Virginia Historical Society made its debut in April at Home School Day at King’s Dominion. Archaeologist Chris Stevenson, right, and State Grants coordinator Ann Andrus (in cap with back to camera) talk to visitors about DHR and the exhibit.*

## 18 new properties added to Register

By Jean McRae

The Department of Historic Resources hosted its quarterly joint Board Meeting Wednesday, June 16th, at the Kensington Court Apartments in Richmond. The Virginia Board of Historic Resources and the State Review Board met and approved the listing of 18 new resources, one boundary increase to a previously listed district, and the updated nomination of a previously registered property. Representing a continuing initiative of DHR to register at least 10 state-owned properties each year, the Scott House and the Taft Site were

added to the VLR, and the nomination of the Virginia State Capitol was substantially updated. DHR is committed to the listing of state-owned properties, in order to promote responsible stewardship of historically important sites and structures owned by the state on behalf of the people of the Commonwealth.

The Scott House, which is owned by Virginia Commonwealth University and is currently within the registered West Franklin Street Historic District, takes its theme from Marble House, a Vanderbilt Mansion in Rhode Island. The house is

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## Help DHR mold Virginia’s next preservation plan

Help us shape the next version of Virginia’s statewide comprehensive preservation plan, now in development. Earlier versions published in 1997 and 2001 have outlined the existing status of historic resources and preservation tools across Virginia. They emphasized DHR’s role of supporting both public and private stewardship—especially local stewardship efforts—and integrating historic preservation principles with mainstream economic development, tourism, education, conservation, affordable housing and community development efforts. The goals in these plans have consistently guided the De-

partment’s programs and initiatives—as implemented in its annual work plan. (See *Putting Virginia’s History to Work* in the “publications” section of the DHR Web site.)

Both of the earlier plans were rooted in the issues and priorities that we heard from a variety of public participation strategies. These sources ranged from regional workshops, focus groups, the Virginia History Initiative, the Virginia Commission on Archaeology, and ongoing interaction with our board and key partners/customer groups, statewide and local organizations, local governments,

public agencies, and the members of each regional office advisory committee.

For this version of the plan, we have developed a brief questionnaire that is located on the DHR Web site (see *Comprehensive Planning Survey* in the “What’s New” section). The questionnaire is in the form of a Word document that you can fill out and email to [Catherine.Slusser@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:Catherine.Slusser@dhr.virginia.gov) for your issues and ideas to be considered. If you do not have access to the Web site, contact your nearest DHR regional office, or call the Richmond office at 804-367-2323 to request the survey in hard copy.



**Central Office:**  
2801 Kensington Ave.  
Richmond, VA 23221  
(804) 367-2323  
(804) 367-2391 (fax)

**Capital Region Office:**  
2801 Kensington Ave.  
Richmond, VA 23221  
(804) 367-2323, ext. 107  
(804) 367-2391 (fax)

**Portsmouth Region Office:**  
612 Court St., 3rd Floor  
Portsmouth, VA 23704  
(757) 396-6707  
(757) 396-6712 (fax)

**Roanoke Region Office:**  
1030 Penmar Ave. SE  
Roanoke, VA 24013  
(540) 857-7585  
(540) 857-7588 (fax)

**Winchester Region Office:**  
107 N. Kent St., Suite 203  
Winchester, VA 22601  
(540) 722-3427  
(540) 722-7535 (fax)

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Editor: Deborah Woodward;  
assistant editor/designer:  
Sean P. Smith; copyeditor,  
Bryan Clark Green

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## DHR Roundup

### Changing faces around the halls of Department

The agency is fondly bidding farewell to some familiar faces and welcoming some new employees.

Capital Region Preservation Office Director Jack Zehmer officially retired July 1. Jack has been a preservation institution in Richmond and throughout Virginia, having spent 15 years as executive director at the Historic Richmond Foundation and five years at DHR.

Chief Curator Beth Acuff retired June 1, after a notable 16 years with the agency. During that tenure, she re-housed Virginia's archaeological collections at DHR, enhancing the collections management standard.

Public Relations Specialist Deborah Woodward left DHR in early May to pursue other interests after 13 years of service.

DHR has recently welcomed Jean McRae as Register Program Specialist, and Roger Kirchen as an archaeologist for the Project Review division.

### Fundraising workshops held for non-profits

DHR joined the APVA/Preservation Virginia, the Preservation Alliance of Virginia, and the Southern Field Office of the National Trust as a major sponsor and presenter of four fundraising training workshops for not-for-profit heritage organizations in April. Held in Loudoun County, and in the cities of Roanoke, Richmond and Hampton in cooperation with Oatlands, Inc., the History Museum & Historical Society of Western Virginia, and the Hampton History Museum, the workshops attracted an audience of over 120 members of 65 heritage organizations.

The 2004 workshops (modeled after workshops held since 2001) included topics such as



**National Historic Preservation Week:** *DHR joined its preservation partners and colleagues across the state and the U.S. to celebrate National Historic Preservation Week, May 3-9, with this year's theme as "New Frontiers in Preservation." Designed to heighten awareness of and concern for historic preservation, DHR marked the week with a series of training and outreach events, including fundraising workshops.*

how to plan fundable projects; prospecting for contributions from corporate, foundation and other sources; and donor communications and relations.

### Preserve America honors first Virginia communities

DHR Director Kathleen S. Kilpatrick and Community Services Director Bob Carter attended the March 18 Preserve America Community Designation Event held in Washington, D.C. Joined by the Historic Preservation Caucus of the U.S. House of Representatives, the event announced 20 newly designated communities. The Town of Smithfield and Williamsburg were the first named from Virginia.

Preserve America is a White House initiative developed in cooperation with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the U.S. Department of Interior, and the U.S. Department of Commerce to preserve our nation-

al heritage. For details go to: [www.PreserveAmerica.gov](http://www.PreserveAmerica.gov).

### Cultural tourism fastest growing tourist sector

According to a report conducted by the Travel Industry Association and Smithsonian magazine, 118 million adults, or more than half of the U.S. adult population (56 percent), are considered historic/cultural travelers. Cultural tourism has grown 13 percent since 1996, increasing from 192.4 million person trips to 216.8 million person trips in 2002. This is twice the growth of overall travel.

### Top 10 states visited by historic/cultural travelers

- |                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. California   | 6. Virginia    |
| 2. Texas        | 7. Illinois    |
| 3. New York     | 8. Tennessee   |
| 4. Florida      | 9. N. Carolina |
| 5. Pennsylvania | 10. Georgia    |

Additional findings include:

- Cultural tourism travelers spend more money on historic/cultural trips compared to the average U.S. traveler.
- Historic/cultural trips are more likely to be seven nights or longer and include air travel, rental car and a hotel stay.
- Cultural tourism travelers are younger, wealthier, more educated, and technologically savvy.

### Werowocomoco digging resumes for summer

Excavations at Werowocomoco resumed in June, with archaeology students from the College of William and Mary working with archaeologists from the William & Mary Anthropology Department and DHR. The team investigated further some of the findings of last summer, when both prehistoric and historic features were discovered. For more details on this season's dig, go to: <http://powhatan.wm.edu>.

— Compiled by Sean P. Smith

# Guest Notes

Patrick Farley

These are momentous times within the building industry. Across the country, excitement abounds as environmental awareness moves to the forefront. Over the past decade, a growing wave of attention in the press and in architectural circles has been focused on the “green” building movement, with high-tech new construction seeming to dominate the spotlight.

Considered “progress,” this tendency is innate to modern American culture. However, in honor of this year’s National Preservation Week theme of “New Frontiers in Preservation,” I offer a broader perspective—one that exposes the holistic value inherent in the stewardship of our architectural heritage.

While not often viewed through an environmental lens, the preservation of historic buildings nonetheless secures a critical dimension within the realm of sustainable development. In maintaining this valuable connection to our common ancestry, saving old buildings embodies one of the central tenets of conscientious design: it is not what is put into a project, but what is left out or avoided that makes a difference. Every existing building saved (historic or not) is tantamount to preservation of open space and natural habitat. Beyond saving green space for future generations, this single act also conserves finite natural resources, reduces the waste stream and minimizes the impact of raw materials extraction, manufacture and transportation otherwise

necessitated by the construction of a replacement structure. In fact, the U.S. Green Building Council’s LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) rating system incorporates a number of incentives and rewards for recycling existing building stock.

As an extension of the tangible cultural benefits of preservation, there are underlying environmental attributes not readily apparent. When we recycle an historic or otherwise aged structure, we also honor the human energy and traditions that pre-date environmentalism in this country. The designers and/or builders of these buildings typically incorporated—as givens—several methods now considered “sustainable”: they procured natural non-toxic materials of durable quality locally (or regionally), achieved passive conditioning by proper building orientation, and relied minimally (if at all) on fossil fuels for construction. Moreover, even in the case of simply renovating a structure, we are recycling its “embodied energy” and in the process substantially avoiding further degradation of natural systems.

Just as the very act of building is an environmental response unto itself, historic preservation exemplifies environmental stewardship in the building arena. Through preservation, we are doing more than renovating, protecting, and restoring landmark structures—in keeping the richness and character of our historic resources alive, we not only pass our national heritage along to future generations, we are sustaining the health of the natural world for them as well.

*Patrick Farley is a principal with Watershed, a Richmond architectural firm where environmental stewardship is a central tenet within the practice. He is also a founder and Vice Chair of the James River Green Building Council.*

## Web hotspots

Click on the latest DHR news at [www.dhr.virginia.gov](http://www.dhr.virginia.gov), “What’s New?”

**New features:** The register section of the DHR Web site now provides an updated master list of all sites designated to the National Register of Historic Places in Virginia, a list of the most recently designated properties, and a preview of sites that will be considered for designation at the upcoming quarterly joint board meeting. The preview includes images of each property and text that documents the historical, architectural, archaeological, or cultural significance for the site.

**Take a ride on Main Street:** The National Park Service, in partnership with the Virginia Main Street Program, the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers (NCSHPO) and DHR recently launched an on-line travel itinerary for 17 unique Virginia Main Street communities. A total of 46 historic places are profiled. Please go to [www.cr.nps.gov/nr/travel/VAmainstreet](http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/travel/VAmainstreet) for more information.

**Online survey:** Cast your vote! Visit the “What’s New?” page on the DHR Web site to complete an online survey telling us what you would like to see in terms of a quarterly publication. Complete the survey online, email us at [sean.smith@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:sean.smith@dhr.virginia.gov)

or phone (804) 367-2323, ext. 119. Your comments are appreciated.

**Travel through time:** In partnership with DHR, the 2004 Virginia TimeTravelers Passport program is now underway. When students visit six different museums and historic sites through Nov. 1 and get their passport stamped, they qualify for a certificate and other special promotions. Go to [www.timetravelers.org](http://www.timetravelers.org) for more information.

**Nominations:** Scenic Virginia is seeking nominations for its 2004 Scenic Awards that honor projects that preserve, protect and enhance Virginia’s scenic beauty. Go to [www.scenicvirginia.org](http://www.scenicvirginia.org) for forms.

## Calendar

**“Heritage Areas: A Forum on Partnerships and Heritage Development:”** July 23, 2004, Reston; offered by the Heritage Development Institute. The course is aimed at federal employees working with communities on conservation projects. Sponsored by the Alliance of National Heritage Areas. For more information, go to [www.cr.nps.gov/heritage\\_areas/hdi.htm](http://www.cr.nps.gov/heritage_areas/hdi.htm)

**2004 Virginia Environmental Assembly:** Saturday, Sept. 18, 2004; join the Virginia Conservation Network and the Piedmont Environmental Council for a special one-time joining of VCN’s annual environmental assembly and PEC’s 2004 Annual Meeting. The day’s theme is, “Reconnecting Virginia,” and will include workshops and special features that provide a comprehensive look at the connection between land use, transportation and the environment. Information, [www.vcnva.org](http://www.vcnva.org)

**Valley Conservation Council Annual Meeting:** Sept. 10, 2004; Wade’s Mill, Staunton; the VCC’s mission is promoting land use that sustains the farms, forests, open space, and cultural heritage of the Shenandoah Valley region. Information: [www.valley-conservation.org](http://www.valley-conservation.org).

**2004 National Preservation Conference:** Sept. 28–Oct. 3, 2004; Louisville, Ky. Sponsored by The National Trust for Historic Preservation, this year’s theme is “Restore America: Communities at a Crossroads.” For information and registration, go to: [www.nthpconference.org](http://www.nthpconference.org)

**“Main Street 101”;** Sept. 29 and 30, 2004; Rocky Mount; presented by Virginia Main Street; “Main Street Four Point Approach.” Information: [mainstreet@dhcd.state.va](mailto:mainstreet@dhcd.state.va)

**The Council of Virginia Archaeologists (COVA):** Fall meeting; Oct. 29, 2004; [www.cova-inc.org](http://www.cova-inc.org)

## VLR

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significant for two generations of the Scott family; Frederic Scott, founder of Scott & Stringfellow, and his daughters, preservationists Elisabeth Scott Bocock and Mary Ross Scott Reed.

### A 'Capitol' idea

Listed previously in the National Register and the National Historic Landmarks in the 1960s, the current nomination brings the Virginia State Capitol's history up to date with information from restoration projects. Jefferson's Capitol, modeled on the Roman temple form, is at the heart of the current Capitol complex and houses the oldest legislative body in the United States. The main section was constructed of brick and cov-

ered in stucco and the 1904-06 flanking wings are set back from the original building and are designed in a sympathetic Classical Revival mode.

The Taft Archaeological Site at Mason's Neck in Fairfax County is a multi-component, stratified, upland, prehistoric and possibly proto-historic Native American camp dating between circa 2000 B.C. and A.D. 1560.

The district expansion included on the VLR is in the City of Franklin. The Franklin Historic District will now include the Camp Family Homestead and the Poplar Springs Cemetery. The Camp family has been part of Franklin's history since 1887 when six brothers formed the Camp Manufacturing Co. The cemetery is the final resting place for this family as well as most of Franklin's other families.

### Other nominations

The other 16 nominations listed in the VLR include: Bloomington in Louisa County; the Church Home for Aged, Infirm and Disabled Colored People in Brunswick County; Grace Hospital in the City of Richmond; Montrose in Dinwiddie County; Pleasant Grove in Fluvanna County; the Thomas Methodist Episcopal Chapel in Bedford County; Walnut Grove in Washington County; Camp Pendleton in Virginia Beach; the Matthew Whaley School in Williamsburg; the Nansemond County Training School in the City of Suffolk; the Balthis House in Warren County; Chapel Hill in Clarke County; Four Stairs in Fairfax County; Great Falls Grange and Forestville School in Fairfax County; the Milford Battlefield in Page and Warren Counties; and Millbank in

King George County.

In a separate action, the State Review Board recommended to the agency director that the 20 resources listed in the VLR be nominated to the National Register. The board also reconsidered its recommendation of the Broad Street Commercial Historic District, Boundary Increase located in the City of Richmond. This nomination was listed on the VLR, but was deferred by the State Review Board at the March meeting. The nomination will now go to the National Park Service for listing on the Register.

For further details, go to the DHR Web site at: [www.dhr.virginia.gov/homepage\\_features/board\\_activities](http://www.dhr.virginia.gov/homepage_features/board_activities)

To view the entire VLR please go to: [www.dhr.virginia.gov/pdf\\_files/RegisterMasterList.pdf](http://www.dhr.virginia.gov/pdf_files/RegisterMasterList.pdf)

**Virginia Department of Historic Resources**  
**2801 Kensington Avenue**  
**Richmond, VA 23221**

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### From our clients:

"The Virginia Indian community has developed a longstanding, proactive collaboration with DHR, which we consider to be one of the most trustworthy relationships we have with outside agencies."



— **Karenne Wood,**  
**Virginia Council on Indians**  
**chairperson**



### Get involved! Help support historic preservation

Legislation passed by the General Assembly created the Virginia Historic Resources Fund as a means to support a variety of key historic preservation efforts including heritage education, landmark preservation, threatened sites intervention, and research. The

fund is administered by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, and all donations are fully tax deductible. Make checks payable to the Virginia Department of Historic Resources/"Historic Resources Fund." Details: [www.dhr.virginia.gov/homepage\\_features/how\\_involved.htm](http://www.dhr.virginia.gov/homepage_features/how_involved.htm)